

March 12, 2012

Dear Child Care Systems Improvement "BEST" Team:

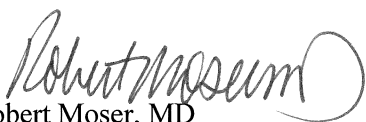
I am taking the opportunity to express my appreciation for the work of the BEST Team in its advisory capacity to the KDHE Child Care Licensing Program. Since the Team's establishment in Fall 2007, the Team has provided the Kansas Department of Health and Environment direction on improvements needed to redesign the child care licensing system and the standards.

The 2010 recommendations from the BEST Team included a recommendation to more closely align administrative sanctions with the noncompliance found and to increase predictability and transparency in the enforcement of the statutes and regulations. As the Secretary of KDHE, I support these goals and will work to ensure the Department continues to prioritize them. Toward that end, I challenge the Team to commit to the following in the upcoming year:

1. Assisting the Child Care Licensing Program in reviewing the protocol for progressive sanctions to determine the effectiveness and whether changes are needed;
2. Guiding the Department in its efforts to publicize the protocol for sanctions so licensees, parents, and the public understand under what conditions a sanction would be assessed; and
3. Assisting in the development of written information regarding the administrative appeal process, including how to appeal an administrative order and possible dispositions.

I want to thank you for the leadership, expertise, and guidance the Team has provided to the Department and look forward to the continued work on behalf of Kansas children and their families.

Sincerely,



Robert Moser, MD
Secretary and State Health Officer
Kansas Department of Health and Environment